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"The Staff"
FCC
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC
20554

January 20, 2003

TO: "The Staff"

02-277

From: A Fan of *Report on Chain Broadcasting*

I'm really disappointed that three great regulations, especially Local Radio Ownership from 1941 are up for repeal.

These are classics of New Deal thinking on the need to force giants like RCA and CBS to stop squeezing out Mutual and yanking local broadcasters around by switching them from Red to Blue at the drop of a hat.

I mean, the Dual Television Network Ownership Rule of 1946 is obviously the TV version of the conclusions of the *Report on Chain Broadcasting* that David Sarnoff should sell off Blue, and the National TV Ownership Rule of 1941 is in the same spirit.

Considering how much heat James L. Fly took to get the regulations on the books, you'd think there would be some thought of what it means to drop them.

Which implies..

Either "The Staff" doesn't know what *Report on Chain Broadcasting* says, and can't be bothered to know.

Or..

It does know, and has no intention of getting Michael K. Powell to understand what abuses led to the regulations of 1941.

Even dumber is the briefing from FOX, NBC and Viacom/CBS, which not only lies, it only goes back to 1960 for its examples. The lobbyists who wrote this haven't read *The Report on Chain Broadcasting* either.

So, does "The Staff" know why Alfred J. Nobel bought a radio network?

Does it **know why** one was put up for sale?

Confirmer

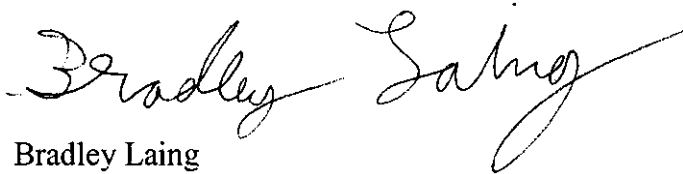
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Things haven't changed that much since the late 1930s, despite the introduction of the internet, satellite TV and cable. It is still the FCC's job to safeguard the public property of the airwaves, and the overlap between cable, satellite (and in news, internet web sites) nixes the idea that you could allow concentration of ownership of TV or radio stations and someone else will provide diversity of news and entertainment.

Either the FCC looks after the public interest, or some giant like RCA or Viacom/CBS neglects it.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bradley Laing". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bradley Laing

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